THE EXAMINER.

No. 6. *SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1808.*

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few.
SWIFT.

No. 6.

ON THE ABOLITION OF REVERSIONARY GRANTS.

The bill against Grants in Reversion has passed the House of Commons, but it has still to escape the Lords, and it's former fate in that noble assembly is well remembered. No device to obtain popularity can be more stale and at the same time more unworthy a British Parliament, than the tolerant spirit of Ministers in the Lower House, upon matters which they are sure will not be tolerated by their own party in the Upper. You ask a favour of a man who declares with a most honest radiance of smile that he has no possible objection—*provided his partner has none.* You go overjoyed to this partner, but unluckily the generous man has been there before you, and so he saves his reputation and his favours together. It must be confessed, that a private *Gentleman* would scorn to do half the actions which occupy the generality of Ministers.

The idea of Reversionary Grants is really the most absurd in the world: to give a man a sinecure or other office, which after his death is the property of some relation, and after his death, of some human being *hardly born*, at once exhibits the very madness of lavishment and produces the very effects of a mean avarice. It is madly lavish, because persons are rewarded who have not only done nothing meritorious, but who scarcely have any existence; and it has all the effects of avarice, because by this strange distribution of reward, there is no sufficiency left for real merit, the stream of reward is turned through certain confined grounds, and though it runs at last Heaven knows where, the most deserving of mankind may look over the ministerial palings and die of thirst. A reward in reversion is, after all, a miserable compliment to a man of any spirit. If he has done any thing worthy of favour, why the delay? And if he has done nothing, why the reward at all? England is surely rich enough to reward her deserving subjects instantaneously, but at the same time, all her wealth is not sufficient to bestow money on every man, monied or not, who is a minister's creature, or perhaps the creature of that creature. A fool would be very much ridiculed who should claim acquaintance with a nobleman, because he knew a man, who was intimate with another man, who knew something of his Lordship; but in the name of candour and common sense, is it not a thousand times more ridiculous, that a little boy should claim the reversion of a government-office, because he is the son of a man, who happens to be the distant relation of another man, who happens to be in office? The matter in short is so utterly simple, and the folly of those grants so utterly miserable, that only one person in the House of Commons ventured to oppose the bill, and this person was Mr. WILLIAM DUNDAS, the nephew of Lord MELVILLE, and the possessor of a reversionary grant.

One word more in the way of abstract reasoning. All wise men and legislators have agreed that the spirit of rewarding and of punishing should be the same, that the same public principle which induces a nation to reward it's virtuous men should induce them in the same degree to punish it's vicious men. If reversionary rewards then are agreeable to sound reason and to the spirit of social benefit, the case must be the same with reversionary punishments. I think I hear all my readers bless themselves at the very idea of such a great favour. But seriously speaking, if men are rewarded for nothing, why may they not be punished for nothing? Why may not a man be imprisoned for ten years with remainder to his fourth cousin, with remainder to his wife's mother's brother's nephew. If a true Englishman would be indignant at such an injustice done to himself, he ought also to despise a favour which does injustice to others.

Public folly is always public cruelty, for it is sure to injure the deserving. Not to mention the future idle and wicked men upon whom the universality of vice would most probably throw some of these grants, what is to be said of such lavishments in times like the present? What is to be said of thousands given away to the lazy rich and to infant nonentities, at a time when the country is groaning with taxation? Thousands of industrious people are at this moment toiling, with faces almost wet with tears, to make up a little annual sum, which is subject to all sorts of petty inquisition, while the fruits of their industry are lavished upon stocks and stones! God forbid I should be the advocate of any system of parsimony in a rich and enlightened state, but it is the object that sanctions or condemns the gift, and when a British Parliament hesitate at the propriety of giving twenty thousand pounds to a man who has threatened the most frightful of disorders with extermination, let it not scatter hundreds of thousands to the winds. One of the

Tellers of the Exchequer has twenty thousand a year for writing the word Buckingham now and then. Suppose this was a reversionary office? My readers will excuse me for reasoning upon such a subject.

When an English Ambassador, Lord Macartney I believe, shewed the picture of a Noble English child to some Chinese courtiers, who know nothing of hereditary nobility, they could not conceive how a child could be a great grandee: they asked what he had done to deserve so great an honour, and when they were told, that the Noble Lord was a mere infant, it was impossible for them to subject their imaginations to the idea of a little baby who was already a great man. We laugh at this short-sighted way of thinking, but would not they themselves have a right to laugh at us, if we had told them of pensioners of ten years old, pensioners of two, pensioners of one, and pensioners of none! A simple Chinese might exclaim "Pigtail of the Great Fo! If these English give pensions to infants just born, what must they give to their deserving men!" But one of their literati, that is to say, one of their noblemen, would be more likely to exclaim "Head of Confucius! If these English give pensions to babies for no reason in the world, if they enrich a mere substance, and bestow rewards almost upon what is not, how is it that their poets, their philosophers, and their learned men have so often died of neglect."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The Russian fleet is fitting at Cronstadt with great activity; 306 row-gallies are to follow it when it sails for Copenhagen: there are numerous corps of troops to be embarked for that place. Strong batteries are erecting in the front of the harbours of Revel and Cronstadt.

The Emperor is making arrangements for improvement of his dock-yards; there are to be 18 Companies of about 277 men each, and to be divided in subdivisions of 18.

It is in contemplation, in France, to plant and cultivate the Cotton-tree in the Southern provinces of that country.

Armand Victor Le Chevalier, formerly a Chief of the Chouans, and pardoned, was tried by a Court Martial at Paris, on the 9th inst. and sentenced to suffer death, for having assembled an armed force last June, of which he constituted himself the Chief.

The Swedish Diet is convoked, and the greatest discontent reigns in that kingdom. The King's politics are loudly abused. The public opinion in Sweden is strongly pronounced in favour of the ancient connections with France; they remember that in all times, but particularly in the reign of Gustavus Adolphus, it procured a great extension of territory, and great influence amongst foreign Courts. There is an appearance of war between that country and Russia, the issue of which is not to be doubted. The Russian corps assembled on the frontiers of Swedish Finland continue to receive reinforcements. In Suabia, 69,328 persons have been vaccinated, with the happiest effect.

The *Moniteur* contains two Decrees of the Conservative Senate; one of which places 80,000 Conscripts of the year 1809 at the service of Government; and by the other, Kehl, Cassel, Wesel, and Flushing, with their dependencies, are annexed to the French Empire.

The *Moniteur* of the 25th contains a Report addressed to the Emperor by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, relative to Portugal. It states that, notwithstanding the repeated and urgent remonstrances of France, the Prince Regent contrived, from time to time, to delay joining in the Confederacy against Great Britain, and confiscating its property in Portugal. "At one time a delay was required, in order to send the Prince of Beria, a child twelve years old, to protect the Brazils, in case of their being attacked by the English; and at another time a delay was required, because a squadron was expected from the Mediterranean, which the Portuguese Government wished to see in safety in the Tagus." There is another report from the same Minister, dated the 2d of January: it announces the departure of the Portuguese Government, and adds, that it is necessary to occupy Portugal with a considerable body of troops, because apprehensions were entertained that the English would make some attempts upon its coasts. It also adds, that the Spanish Government felt some alarm for Cadiz and for Ceuta.

MOTIVES OF THE *SENATUS CONSULTUM* UPON THE CONSCRIPTION OF 1809, DECLARED BY REGNAUD DE ST. JEAN D'ANGELY, MINISTER OF STATE.

Senators—When your wisdom called out the Conscripts of 1808, your wishes were directed towards the peace which signal victories had prepared—you wished to ensure new means of conquering and purifying. The success surpassed your hopes—the flames of war are extinguished upon the Continent—a durable peace has been sworn between the two greatest Sovereigns in the world, and Europe has time to breathe. But there is a Government to which the repose of Europe is despair, to which peace is terror, to which discord is necessity, and war hope. England has replied to the offer of a generous mediation offered by the Emperor of Russia, by carrying fire and the sword into the territories of his most ancient ally, by professing more solemnly contempt of the right of nations, by proclaiming more inhumanly the principle of eternal war. The indignation of all Sovereigns has replied to the injurious Manifestoes, to the cunning declarations, to the barbarous acts of the Cabinet of St. James's. The predictions which the orators of his Majesty made to you a year ago in this Tribune are realized. It is, we said, "from the bosom of the Continent, which England would set in a flame, that henceforth a terrible war shall be waged against her. It is by applying to her on all the European shores the principles she has applied in all Seas, that we shall bring her back to the ancient principles of the Law of Nations and of civilized states. It is by exiling her ships from all the coasts where we have soldiers and allies, that the English Ministry will be punished for the culpable refusal of giving peace to the world."—Such, Senators, were the words we addressed to you in speaking of the Conscription of 1808, and behold a sacred and powerful league is formed to punish the English Oligarchy, defend the rights of nations, and avenge humanity. From the Baltic to the Mediterranean, from the Nile to the Narva, but few points remain to the English ships

where they can land, or where they are not forbidden to touch. But it is not sufficient to have, by a just reciprocity, pronounced against England that dreadful sentence of outlawry; she must not be permitted to be at rest on the seat of her iniquitous domination, upon any of her coasts, in any of her colonies, under any points of the globe, which are not interdicted to her. It is necessary that, repelled from one part of the world, menaced in all others, England should know not where to direct the little military force of which she has the disposal; and that our armies, more formidable than ever, should be ready to carry into her possessions our victorious and avenging eagles. Such, Gentlemen, are the motives which have determined his Majesty to demand a new Conscription.—The levy of the preceding year has been, as you foresaw, the pledge of Continental Peace—the levy of this year will be the presage of a Maritime Peace. The pillage of the arsenal and port of Copenhagen—the emigration of the Portuguese fleet, have not yet left the Continent without ships. Our legions can yet reach the English militia—Ireland may yet hope for succour against oppression—India may yet expect deliverers; and while our ancient phalanxes shall march to hasten the days of justice, new legions of young warriors shall be trained to discipline and to battle, under the paternal eye of those warlike Magistrates, of those Senator Generals, who with so happy a zeal have already formed brave men to replace those whom war has snatched from the country, or who have been restored to their families. His Majesty will have a superabundance of means to realize his pacific views, or to execute his warlike projects. To the powerful armies of his faithful allies, his Majesty will unite, for common defence and triumph, so formidable a mass, that success will not be doubtful. So just a cause will not be vainly defended by so much force, and protected by so many powers. A league so imposing in its elements, so generous in its policy, so just in its object, so great in its means, will at length bring back our enemies to justice through fear, or to submission through victory.

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF WAR ON THE MEASURES TAKEN BY FRANCE UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.—JAN. 6.

Your Majesty ordered me to form the first and second Corps of Observation of the Gironde. The first of those corps, commanded by General Junot, has conquered Portugal. The head of the second is ready to follow the first, if circumstances require it. Your Majesty, whose vigilance is never at fault, wished the Corps of Observation of the Ocean, confided to Marshal Moncey, to be in the third line. The necessity of shutting the ports of the Continent against our irreconcileable enemy, and of having upon every point of attack considerable means, in order to profit by any fortunate circumstances which might present themselves, to carry the war to the heart of England, Ireland, and the Indies, may render the levy of the Conscription of 1809 necessary.

The party which rules at London, has proclaimed the principle of eternal war, and the Expedition to Copenhagen has revealed its criminal intentions. Though the indignation of all Europe has been excited against England; though at no period France had such numerous armies, it is not sufficient—it is necessary that English influence should be attacked every where where it exists, till the moment in which the sight of so many dangers shall induce England to drive from her Councils the Oligarchs who direct them, and to confide the Administration to wise men, capable of conciliating the love and interest of the country with the love and interest of the human race.

A vulgar policy would have made your Majesty disarm; but such a policy would be a scourge to France, and render imperfect the great results you have prepared.—Yes, Sire, your Majesty, far from diminishing your arms, ought to augment them, till England shall have acknowledged the independence of all powers, and restore to the seas that tranquillity which your Majesty has ensured to the Continent.—Undoubtedly your Majesty must suffer in requiring from your People fresh sacrifices, and in imposing new obligations on them; but you ought also to yield to the cry of all the French—"No repose till the Sea be free, and a just Peace shall have re-established France in the most just, the most useful, and the most necessary of her rights."

FROM THE WEST INDIA PAPERS.

KINGSTON, DEC. 12.—The Kingston regiment, and three troops of horse, were mustered on the Parade early on Wednesday morning, when they immediately received orders to proceed in divisions throughout the city, to search the negro-houses, &c. for fire-arms which might have improperly come into the possession of negroes; but few, however, were found. The different avenues to the city were guarded by regulars, and the troops of horse visited the pens in the vicinity. A few foreigners were taken up, but afterwards, on examination, liberated. In the month of September a dreadful gale of wind was felt in the Bay of Mexico. At Campeachy fifty houses were destroyed, and about fifty vessels lost. The tide rose to such a height, as to drive some of the vessels three miles into the interior. About twelve vessels were lost at Vera Cruz, and most of the crews perished.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The circumstances of a horrid murder were investigated by Mr. Clare, one of the Coroners for Wiltshire, on Wednesday se'nnight.—Roberts, a dairy farmer at Brineard's Hill, near Wootton-Basset, was in the practice of drinking to great excess, and in fits of inebriety would often beat his wife cruelly, and threaten to kill her. On Sunday se'nnight the poor woman expressed her fears that he would put his threats in execution, and particularly requested one of the men-servants to sleep in the house, but this request was not attended to, and no one was in the house that night but Robins and his wife. On Monday morning, at break of day, the first labourer that went to work discovered Robins sitting by the hearth-side, in the back-kitchen, and near him his wife, lying on the embers, burnt and dead. The murderer was apprehended and lodged in Devizes Gaol.

An atrocious attempt was made to murder a respectable Magistrate of Wiltshire, John Jones, Esq. of Woolley. On the evening of the 19th ult. some person, in company with others (all of whom are unknown), fired a loaded pistol or blunderbuss at him, as he was returning home on horseback from his factory at Staverton, whereby his eyes and face were very much injured.

A Portsmouth Paper says—A most inhuman monster has attacked several unprotected females lately, on their way from the Half-way-houses to Portsea; the daughter of Mrs. Pain, who lives in Spring-street, was cut through her clothes, and wounded, in passing the archway of the Lion Gates. Mrs. Cooke's servant, who resides in Clarence-street, was severely wounded by the atrocious wretch. A few evenings since he made an attempt to injure Miss Fennell (niece to Mr. Kidd, linen-draper), but she fortunately had a lantern, and holding it up discovered a large instrument inside his great coat, when she immediately darted across the road, and sought the protection of a man who happened to be passing by. The villain has been taken, and is in prison; he is a tall man, and had on a great coat like a soldier's. We understand that a similar monster, who had imbibed an inveterate hatred against the fair sex, infested Portsea about ten years since.

On Tuesday se'nnight, at Godmanchester, as Mrs. Pearce, the mother of Colonel Pearce, was standing by the fire, it is supposed a spark flew out, and set her veil

in a blaze, which communicating to the other parts of her dress, burnt her in so shocking a manner as to cause her immediate death.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR JANUARY.

The sudden and severe frost in the course of the month have checked the young Wheats. The Rape plants for seed have also suffered by the severity of the weather. The season for general sowing of Beans and Peas has been protracted from the wetness of the season, but few soils having been yet found in a working state for this course of cropping. The Lent Corn of different kinds must be got in late in general. The few Turnips remaining having been injured, and the Ryes and Winter Tares kept back by the frosts and cold rains: unless we should be favoured with an early spring, all kinds of seed must be found rather scarce. The Markets continue well supplied with Hay at steady prices. The early falls of Dorset Lambs have proved unfavourable, from the severity of the weather. Smithfield has had an advance in most articles, particularly in prime Beef and Mutton; the graziers experience a drawback in their sheep, from their skins being not so saleable, on account of the expected war with the American States. The Wool Markets are dull, and with difficulty retain the last month's prices.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, FEB. 1.

The Lord Chancellor communicated the Thanks of the House severally to Lord Viscount Cathcart and Lord Gambier, each Noble Lord standing in his place whilst the Thanks were delivered. The Lord Chancellor added, in each instance, that the high honour of the Thanks of that House had been well merited by the services rendered by these Noble Lords to their country.

Lord Viscount Cathcart and Lord Gambier severally addressed the House, expressing their thanks for the high honour conferred upon them, and speaking in the warmest terms of approbation of the ability, skill, discipline, and valour, displayed by the Army and Navy employed in the Expedition to Copenhagen.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2.

The Reversionary Grant Prohibition Bill was brought up from the Commons, and ordered to be printed.

Lord Moira brought in a Bill for amending the Law of Debtor and Creditor, and for punishishing fradulent Debtors. It was not his intention, he said, to urge the Bill further than the stage of printing it, until an opportunity occurred for certain Lords to attend, whom he should wish to see in their places on the second reading.

The Bill was ordered to be printed.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3.

There was no business of moment before their Lordships this day.

THURSDAY, FEB. 4.

AMERICA.

Lord Grenville observed, that he had read with regret, that the President of the United States had refused to ratify the Treaty concluded between the Commissioners, for the purpose of carrying that beneficial object into execution. Though he thus expressed his sorrow and disappointment under existing circumstances, he was wholly unacquainted in any official manner whether the fact was so; yet if it proved true, and that it arose from a refusal on our part not to abandon those principles of maritime law and right which established our recognized supremacy, he should feel the utmost satisfaction. Premising these observations, he could not at the same time refrain from repeating his regret that any misunderstanding should take place between this country and the United States, for it could not be denied that a rupture with America would be attended with serious injury to Great Britain. He was aware, however, that some people consoled themselves under the prospect or probability of such a disastrous event with the supposition and belief that America must suffer also from a state of war. That such would be the case no man could deny; but granting that America inflicted on herself much more calamity than could possibly arise under any circumstances to England, yet what alleviation could such aggravated distresses of America afford to this country? None whatever, and therefore it was idle to resort to an argument, which in its application was inhuman. He should regret any rupture the more, because it must necessarily give an influence to French interest, which he had no doubt would soon lead to the overthrow of the constitution and independence of America. Before, however, we arrived at the extremity of an open rupture with the United States of America, he hoped that every exertion would be made to adjust our differences in a manner consistent with the honour, the dignity, and independence of both nations. Leaving all other points for the discussion which was to take place on the subject, he should move at present, that there be laid before the House a Copy of any Message received from the President of the United States of America, respecting his non-ratification of the Treaty entered into between the Commissioners for the United States of America, and the Commissioners appointed by this country, if any such had been received.

Lord Hawkesbury would abstain from entering at present into any discussion of the points to which the Noble Baron had adverted, and content himself therefore with stating, that whenever the discussion should take place, it would appear that every thing had been done by his Majesty's Government to produce a reconciliation consistently with the feelings and honour of both countries.

Lord Auckland observed, that the Noble Secretary of State was silent respecting any Message from the President of the United States; he should therefore move, that there be laid before the House a Copy of the Declaration delivered by his Majesty's Plenipotentiaries to the Government of America.

Lord Hawkesbury replied, that his only objection to the motion arose from a point of form. The Noble Lord must see that it would be irregular and premature to produce the Declaration before the Treaty to which it referred; and as he could not submit the latter at present, he felt it his duty to resist the motion. The Declaration, however, was published in the Public Journals, and might be made use of by the Noble Lords.

Lord Erskine wished to know whether the United States were made acquainted with our Orders in Council at the time they had ordered their embargo.

Lord Hawkesbury replied, that they were not.

Lord Erskine then asked, whether they had been made acquainted with our intention to issue such Orders, at the time they laid an embargo.

Lord Hawkesbury did not reply.

Lord Grey gave notice, that he should move, on some future day, for all such documents as related to the attack on Constantinople, in order to exhibit to this country, and to the world, the gross misrepresentation which had gone abroad respecting that subject.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 5.

In the case of Sir Francis Gould *v.* Langley, the decree of the Irish Chancery was affirmed, with 200*l.* costs.—Adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, FEB. 1.

The SPEAKER communicated the Thanks of the House (which he pronounced by way of an eulogium) to Generals Sir A. Wellesley, Finch, and Grosvenor, and Sir H. Popham, who were present, the two former and the latter returned their grateful thanks to the House for the high and distinguished honour done to them.

The Papers moved for by Mr. G. Ponsonby, relative to the affairs of Copenhagen, were laid on the Table by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Bill to prevent granting Offices in Reversion, after a few words from Sir S. Romilly and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. CANNING laid on the Table the Papers moved for on Friday by Mr. Whitbread, relative to the Russian Mediation.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2.

Mr. CANNING alluded to a notice for the production of certain Papers relative to the Expedition to the Dardanelles. The Righ Hon. Secretary said, that Expedition had taken place under the auspices of the late Administration, and before he could concede to the production of the Papers required by the Hon. Gentleman, it was his duty to have some conversation with some of the late Ministers upon the subject. When such an interview took place, he did not think there would be any objection to the motion of the Hon. Gentleman.

Mr. T. GRENVILLE expressed himself extremely anxious for a faithful disclosure of all the facts and circumstances attending that enterprise; but declined any private communication.

After a short reply from from Mr. CANNING, Mr. W. TAYLOR consented to postpone his motion.

Mr. PERCEVAL intimated, that on Monday next he should state to the House what had passed between him and the Governor of the Bank of England relative to the Reports from the Committee of Finance.—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3.

Sir CHARLES POLE stated the object of his rising was with a view to corect abuses which had already crept into the Naval Asylum. The Officers who had been appointed to its management were men who had not the most distant connection with the Navy. The Admiral pointed out several who had meritoriously served their King, and bled in defence of their country, who had been rejected, for what cause it was his object to find out. Among others, Mr. Keene, Admiral Cornwallis's Surgeon, had been rejected for another person who had never been in the Navy; even the place of matron was disposed of to a stranger in preference to an officer's widow.

Mr. ROSE, Mr. THORNTON, and Lord NEWARK, on the other hand, said that no undue preference had been given, and for the Surgeoncy they did not know, nor ever heard (though the former and the latter are Commissioners) that Mr. Keene had applied; and according to the infant state of the Institution, the Commissioners could not act otherwise with regard to the Surgeon and Matron, as no other candidates appeared at the time the election was made.

After a few words from Sir E. Nepean, Mr. Laing, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Rose, and Lord Temple, the question was put, that Copies of Warrants granted by his Majesty to the Officers appointed to the Management of the Naval Asylum, with a correct List of their Salaries, and other Emoluments, be laid before the House. The gallery was ordered to be cleared, and on our return, we understood a division had taken place,—For the motion 75—Against it 190.

AFFAIR OF COPENHAGEN.

Mr. G. PONSONBY, after a speech of great length, moved, "That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to give directions that the substance and dates of all information sent by our Officers from the coast of Copenhagen, last year, respecting the Danish Fleet, the repairing, improving, and manning of the same, together with all accounts that were transmitted relative to the improvement thereof, and received by his Majesty's Ministers, should be laid before the House."

This motion, after a debate which lasted till six in the morning, was negatived, there being 108 for it, and 253 against it, leaving a majority in favour of Ministers of 145.—To fill our columns with the Speeches made on this occasion would be worse than repeating a tale twice told. Not a single new argument was advanced; not a ray of light thrown upon the subject. The arguments on both sides, so long urged by the Party Papers, were again set in hostile array, and to give them would only be to reprint the former Debate.—Colonel M'MAHON and Mr. TYRWHYT, Members of the Prince of WALES's Household, voted with the Ministry.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEB. 4.

Mr. WHARTON brought up the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means. The several Resolutions were agreed to, and Bills ordered to brought in pursuant to the same.

STATE OF IRELAND.

Mr. SHERIDAN rose, for the purpose of postponing his motion on this subject, which at present stood for Monday next. His reasons were, that a number of Gentlemen materially interested in the question could not then attend, and because a number of Petitions from Ireland, on the subject of tythes, were likely soon to be presented to the House. On Monday next he hoped to be able to name a day for his intended motion.—Adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEB. 5.

Mr. TIERNEY moved, That there be laid before the House an Account of the Naval and Military Stores taken at Copenhagen, specifying the quality, quantity, and value. —Ordered.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved, That the House do resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, to which these Orders were referred.

On the question being put, that the SPEAKER do now leave the Chair—

Lord H. PETTY said, as these Orders emanated from his Majesty, the House had a right to examine how far the prerogative of the Crown ought to be carried before the necessity of a Parliament was entirely superseded.—The Noble Lord would take it upon himself to convince the House, from the first legal authorities, that these Orders were illegal; and quoted the Duke of Newcastle's Letter respecting the seizure of the Prussian ships, contrary to the opinion of several celebrated Civilians; and the then Attorney and Solicitor Generals, and Lord Eldon's opinion, in an appeal case last war, when his Lordship did not by any means consider Orders in Council legal, as they formed no part of the law of the land, therefore no necessity whatever could be pleaded in assuming what was absolutely the privilege of Parliament. The right of neutrals ought not to be violated by the caprice of Ministers; and the French decree, respecting the blockade of England, was a vain and empty boast, and such as Ministers ought not to make the subject of alarm. Bonaparte never intended to carry his decree into execution against the Americans, which was clear from the explanation of the Minister of Marine to General Armstrong, the American Envoy, as the commerce of France was carried on through their medium; but since the Orders of the 11th of November last, the Americans were by that excluded from the ports of France, therefore all the evils which resulted

from them, were now entirely thrown upon the unoffending Americans, which was contrary to the Treaty, lately signed between both countries, and this, in all probability was what induced the President of the United States not to ratify it, when no faith could bind us. That these Orders were in direct violation to *Magna Charta* was quite unquestionable, which states, that foreign merchants were protected to pass and repass freely into our ports with their merchandize, without molestation; and the statutes of Edward III. 9, 14, and 28, which also give protection to foreign merchants, as they declared the sea to be open to them; and before his Majesty issued orders contrary to these statutes, why were they not repealed instead of violated? in addition to that, he quoted Lord Chief Justice Hale's opinion, who said that Orders in Council were not binding on any Judge, without they were authorised by Parliament. The late Chief Justice of the Admiralty gave a similar opinion. Under all these circumstances he thought a Bill of Indemnity adviseable, to exonerate Ministers from the consequence of having unduly advised his Majesty to issue Orders repugnant to the laws of England.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied that there was any thing illegal in the Orders of Council issued by Ministers. The Decree of the Enemy against the Commerce of Great Britain, described it to be a measure of defence and retaliation, not against neutrals: it was indispensable the question should be accurately understood, and also what the enemy had done, as the Noble Lord seemed to be the defender of his views. The Noble Lord has maintained there was no illegality in the enemy's decree. The first instance of its extending beyond the limits of France, was the prohibition of neutral commerce with England. Was that the true character of the French decree, when the Noble Lord was in office. He should wish to know the fact, and to ascertain how he had since changed his opinion.—(*Loud cries of Hear!*) The Noble Lord might be right in defending these decrees, but it was rather hard in him to do so now, when he had the authority of the Parliament in their support; all that the late Government did was an imperfect and impolitic retaliation. To the late Administration he would impute no improper motive for their Order in Council of the 7th of January, 1807, in reply to the Decree of Bonaparte; he only thought it was not enough, and he urged some farther measures at the time. The Decree of Bonaparte professed to put this island into a state of complete blockade, and also announced that all produce of this island should be deemed good prize; and yet the Noble Lord called this a vain and empty boast. He also stated that the blockade of Great Britain was a nonentity, as it had not been accompanied by any one act, the enemy having no force at sea to keep our ports shut. This fact, the Noble Lord had said, rendered the blockade a mere nullity. The House, however, would differ from the Noble Lord, in thinking that this vain and empty boast was not to be counteracted until it should be carried into effect. Such an idea was both absurd and ridiculous. What Ministers had therefore done, by way of retaliation, was justifiable on every ground of policy and sound discretion; and it was a false charge against this country, that we declared places in a state of blockade, without supporting and maintaining that blockade by an adequate force. Bonaparte had done the same thing. He had done more; he had extended his tyranny to Hamburgh, which city he had seized. A deputation was sent of the citizens, who were received by him in presence of Talleyrand. The deputation represented that a very small part of the property seized in Hamburgh was actually British, and suggested the utter ruin that would attend the suppression of their commerce with England. Bonaparte replied that his mind was made up; he was resolved to ruin the commerce of the vile English, and he would demolish the town of Hamburgh, the more securely to accomplish this object, by destroying that great commercial depot. Spain had re-echoed all the decrees of Bonaparte. But all this was supposed to have been done away by a note from a French Minister; but that Minister did not state any ground, but his own opinion, which had not the effect of altering the regulation of the enemy, either in regard to neutrals or America. It was asserted, that America ought to be satisfied with this representation, as all trade between England and America was, by these French decrees, put an end to. This Minister was a sort of oracle and superior genius, but he could not bend Bonaparte, and at last desired those who applied to him for information to go somewhere else. On the whole, he contended that Ministers were justified in issuing those Orders in Council, and in retorting the blockade on France and her dependencies, and all neutrals. The Noble Lord could not controvert a position so clear. The French say, you (England) shall have no trade. We reply, that we will, in defiance of them, and we adopt measures of direct retaliation, which from their nature must ensure such an effect. On the subject of the Order in Council, issued by the last Ministry, on the 7th of January, 1807, he highly applauded it. The blockade was certainly injurious to neutrals, but as such injury was consequential of the blockade, it must be lamented, but could not be remedied. That very Order in Council had been noticed in the Speech of the President of the United States, as a novel act, violating the law of nations;—establishing a new dominion on the sea. But those Gentlemen on the other side must now come to the House and attack Ministers for having in a more spirited and effectual manner followed up their ideas. The Right Hon. Gentleman concluded by trusting those observations would convince the House, that Ministers, by issuing these Orders of Council, were fully justified in so doing by the laws of nations. It was a measure of *war*, bottomed and grounded on the King's *war* prerogative, which, by all the writers on the subject, his Majesty was fully empowered to do, whenever any enemy attempted to interfere with the mercantile and universal concerns of the empire.

Dr. LAWRENCE contended that the Orders in Council were known to be illegal at the time his Majesty's Ministers advised them, well aware that Bonaparte never intended to carry his decree to extremity towards neutrals.

Sir W. GRANT, Master of the Rolls, contended that his Majesty had a right to make a declaration with respect to the law of nations, but had no right whatever imposed on him to consult Parliament, any more than he had in declaring war or making peace. There might be words in his late Declaration which did not altogether comport with *Magna Charta*, still they might be conformable to the law of nations. It was absurd in Parliament to interfere in a case of absolute necessity, for the greatest benefit had already resulted from it. The enemy had no commerce but what the neutrals carried on; they brought him every thing, consequently took away the surplus of his produce; war was, in that case, more convenient to him than to us; therefore the sooner we put an end to neutral commerce, the sooner we compelled him to put a period to war, which could not but be in every point of view detrimental to this country. To make any concession to neutrals would be endless, for if this country paid them for all costs and damages, they would find it their interest to fit out their ships for the purpose of capture. Sir William concluded by opposing the Speaker leaving the Chair.

Mr. WINDHAM said, that the whole of the Learned Gentleman's arguments were inconsistent with the sound policy which this country ought to pursue, and that Ministers were bound to apply for a Bill of Indemnity.

Sir A. PIGGOTT defended the arguments of Lord Petty, and contended that the Ministers had acted in a very hasty and most precipitate way, in issuing the Orders of Council. He endeavoured to impress upon the House the folly and rashness of Government, when they were not aware of the

consequences which might result, and the sudden change that might take place in a week or a month in the mind of Bonaparte, or in the temper of the Americans.

After a few words from Mr. EDEN, the Question was called for, put and carried without a division, and the House went into a Committee.

In the Committee, Mr. PERCEVAL submitted a string of Resolutions, imposing various duties on articles, the produce of the British Colonies, on their exportation from Great Britain. The Report was ordered to be received on Monday, to which day the House adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Easton and R. Easton, jun. Bucklersbury, warehousemen, Feb. 9, 16, at one, March 15, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Williams, Red Lion-square.

J. P. Seddon, Homerton, merchant, Feb. 6, 16, March 15, at ten, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Alcock and Co. York-street, Southwark.

W. Mayell, Exeter, jeweller, Feb. 6, at two, 16, March 15, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Orchard, Hatton-garden.

J. Wilkinson, Liquorpond-street, baker, Feb. 13, 20, March 15, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Nettleford, Fenchurch-street.

Wm. Davis, North-street, Chelsea, plasterer, Feb. 10, 16, March 15, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Howard, Temple.

J. Phœnix, Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 22, 23, March 15, at one, at the Globe Tavern, Liverpool. Attorney, Mr. Rowlinson, Liverpool.

Eliz. Hulme, Manchester, victualler, Feb. 18, 19, March 15, at eleven, Dog at the Tavern, Manchester. Attornies, Messrs. Johnson and Bailey, Manchester.

S. Roberts, Rhayader, Radnorshire, flannel-manufacturer, Feb. 23, 24, March 15, at ten, at the Red Lion Inn, Hereford. Attorney, Mr. Aston, Hereford.

DIVIDENDS.

March 29. R. Powles, Nag's Head-court, Gracechurch-street, merchant.—March 1. H. Nantes, Warnford-court, merchant.—Feb. 24. M. Wood, Dean-street, tailor.—Feb. 23. S. Purkiss, Acton-green, carpenter, Feb. 27. J. Prost, Goswell-street, brass-founder.—Feb. 23. G. F. Grasse, Tooley-street, furrier.—March 29. J. Hurry, Nag's Head-court, Gracechurch-street, merchant.—Feb. 26. J. Lovell, Birmingham, pin-manufacturer.—Feb. 27. R. Atkinson, Manchester, innkeeper.—Feb. 27. W. Jackson, Manchester, hat-lining-cutter.—March 1. J. Morgan, Llanfairarybrin, Carmarthenshire, timber-merchant.—Feb. 29. G. Felton, Liverpool.

CERTIFICATES—FEB. 23.

A. Bain, Birchin-lane, merchant.—J. Hawkiss, jun. Millpond-street, Bermondsey, boat-builder.—A. Sibbald, Wapping-street, slop-seller.—J. Thompson, Liverpool, merchant.—T. Davies, Kinderton, Cheshire, wine-merchant.—C. Bartlett, Cannon-street-road, stone-mason.—T. Oswald, Berwick-upon-Tweed, bread baker.—R. Adams, Southampton, ship-builder.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains an account of the capture of the Quixote Spanish privateer, of 8 guns and 99 men, by the Savage, Capt. Maurice, in the West Indies.

BANKRUPTS.

Thomas Gray, Rumford, Essex, innholder, to surrender Feb. 13, 20, March 19, at ten, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Cutting, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn.

Robert Cookesley, Poole, timber-merchant, March 7, 8, 19, at eleven, at the Oak Inn, Poole. Attorney, Mr. Nicholls, Poole.

John Parkinson Woolley, Walham-green, Middlesex, brewer, Feb. 13, 20, March 19, at twelve, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Taylor, Took's-court, Chancery-lane.

David Rees, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, shopkeeper, Feb. 15, 16, March 19, at eleven, at the Bush Inn, Swansea. Attorney, Mr. Philipps, Swansea.

Valerio Antonio Seixas Barreto, Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 19, 20, at eleven, March 19, at five, at the Shakspeare Tavern, Birmingham. Attorney, Mr. Palmer, Birmingham.

John Macfadzen, Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 23, 24, March 19, at one, at the Globe Tavern, John-street, Liverpool. Attornies, Messrs. Remington and Wake, Sheffield.

John Grieveson, sen. Newcastle upon-Tyne, vintner, Feb. 19, March 2, 19, at eleven, at the Three Indian Kings, Newcastle. Attornies, Messrs. Clayton, Brumell, and Brown, Newcastle.

Richard Seabrook, Great Bradley, Suffolk, butcher, Feb. 8, at four, 9, March 19, at eleven, at the Red Lion, Newmarket. Attorney, Mr. Cooper, Cambridge.

R. Waddilove, Ainsworth Mill, Lancashire, calico-printer, Feb. 22, 23, March 19, at eleven, at the Bridgewater Arms, Manchester. Attorney, Mr. Seddon, Manchester.

Joseph Cowley, Sheffield, cutler, Feb. 12, 13, March 19, at eleven, at the Angel Inn, Sheffield. Attorney, Messrs. Remington and Wake, Sheffield.

R. Edgington, sen. Abingdon, Berks, hemp-manufacturer, Feb. 19, at two, 20, March 19, at twelve, at the Lamb Inn, Abingdon. Attorney, Mr. Morland, Abingdon.

Thos. Boyd, Edgeware-road, grocer, Feb. 15, at two, 24, March 19, at one, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Day and Hamerton, Cullum-street, Fenchurch-street.

Rob. Jones, Gower-street, Whitechapel, silk-winder, Feb. 16, at ten, 23, at eleven, March 19, at ten, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Bland, Racquet-court, Fleet-street.

William Cuss, York, miller, Feb. 15, 16, March 19, at eleven, at the Red Lion Inn, Pontefract. Attorney, Mr. Towns, Pontefract.

Thomas Wright, Dulverton, Somersetshire, innkeeper, March 1, 2, 19, at eleven, at the Three Tuns Inn, Tiverton. Attorney, Mr. Reudell, Tiverton.

Mark Clemence, Craven-street, Strand, taylor, Feb. 15, at two, 24, March 19, at one, at Guildhall. Attorney, Mr. Hamilton, Tavistock-row, Covent-Garden.

Richard Mount and Wm. Roberts, Angel-court, merchants, Feb. 13, at eleven, 23, at twelve, March 19, at eleven, at Guildhall. Attornies, Messrs. Blunt and Bowman, Old Pay-Office, Broad-street.

John Renton, Gloucester Terrace, Stepney, Middlesex, master mariner, Feb. 13, at one, 20, at twelve, March 19, at eleven, at Guildhall, London. Attorney, Mr. Healing, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside.

DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 27. J. Badcock, Paternoster-row, bookseller.—Feb. 27. C. Medley, Bolt-in-Tun Inn, Fleet-street.—March 1. J. Stevens and J. Cartar, Bread-street, Cheapside, warehousemen.—March 1. J. Carleton, Hilbeck-hall, Westmorland, cotton-spinner.—March 1. H. Hemley, Great Coram-street, Russell-square, baker.—March 5. J. Debrett, Piccadilly, bookseller.—Feb. 23. J. M. Sawyer, J. F. Trueman, and J. Powell, Cannon-street, merchants.—Feb. 27. C. Glover, Albemarle-street, Hanover-square, upholsterer.—Feb. 27. E. Green, Charles-street, Soho-square, man's-mercer.—Feb. 27. G. Scott, Upper Thames-street, grocer.—Feb. 29. J. Frith, Bradford, merchant.—March 4. Wm. Holden, Skirbeck, coal-merchant.—Feb. 29. Wm. Kirkby, Manchester, chapman.—Feb. 27. Edw. Baildon, Manchester, grocer.—March 2. Wm. Tarn-

bull, Bell-savage-yard, Ludgate hill, chapman.—March 5. J. Cunningham, Yoxford, grocer.—Feb. 29. J. Scott and C. S. Bisset, Liverpool, liquor-merchants.—Feb. 27. G. White, Whitechapel-road, grocer.—Feb. 23. T. Woodcroft and J. Woodcroft, Sheffield.—March 8. J. Hague and J. M. Sawyer, Tower-Royal, merchants.—March 12. P. Degraves and T. Bainbridge, Cheapside, warehousemen.—April 11. A. M. Pereira, Old Bethlem, merchant.—May 14. E. Whitelock, Queen's-row, Pentonville, insurance-broker.—Feb. 23. Wm. Burrell, Stockton, linen-draper.—March 1. J. Edwards, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, sadler.—Feb. 29. Wm. Davies, Liverpool, slater.—Feb. 29. Wm. Walker, Leeds, merchant.

CERTIFICATES—FEB. 27.

S. Brunn, Charing-cross, sword-cutler.—J. Thompson, Hand-court, Upper Thames-street, wholesale stationer.—J. Richmond, South Shields, Durham, merchant.—R. Walker, Leicester, dealer and chapman.—J. Phillips, Bradnocks Marsh, Warwick, miller.—R. Swaine, Halifax, J. Swaine, Skircoat, E. Swaine, London, H. Swaine, Halifax, J. Swaine, Halifax, and H. Ramsbotham, Bradford, merchants.—S. Purkiss, Acton-Green, Middlesex, carpenter.—T. Bailey, Liverpool, timber merchant.—W. Jones, Liverpool, stationer and bookseller.—C. Morris, Buslinthorpe, York, manufacturer.

PRICE OF STOCKS YESTERDAY,

3 per Ct. Cons. for money 63⅜.—Ditto for Feb. 63⅜.
3 per Cent. Red. 64.—Omnium — prem.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON:
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

THE curious official reports, that have appeared in the *French* papers, are full of mere bombast. They are such productions as are read through with a sort of half-smile that only waits for the conclusion to burst into laughter. The oration of Mons. REGNAULT DE ST. JEAN D'ANGELY upon the conscription of 1809 is a most happy specimen of boasting, anticlimax, and falsehood. He wishes to persuade the French that they can root out the English from all parts of the world. He propheries that a maritime peace will arise out of the new levy, and he even has sufficient gravity to tell them that India may yet expect *deliverers*. One sentence exhibits a testiness that but ill conceals the disappointment which M. REGNAULT seems to have felt at our proceedings in the North. He says, "that the pillage of the arsenal and port of Copenhagen—the emigration of the Portuguese fleet, have not yet left the Continent without ships." If the translator of this passage is right, what can be the meaning of the word *yet*? Will the loss of one fleet and the emigration of the other *ever* leave the Continent without ships? The disappointment of the French, if it really exists, and the exultation of the English at the late proceedings exhibit the same spirit of short-sighted policy. Did our countrymen as well as our enemies really believe that a Danish and a Portuguese fleet could be converted into the means of our destruction?

The reports of the Minister of Foreign Affairs respecting Portugal are in the true style of proud cruelty with which a despotic enemy insults a nation before she destroys it. With what a collection of frivolous accusations is Portugal assailed? With what an abuse of terms is she represented as having *suffered* the English to monopolize all her regard! If state communications were not void of every species of candour, this very minister would tell us that Portugal could not be said to have *suffered* any thing, because whatever England chose to do, Portugal could not help. The whole quarrel of France with Portugal originates in one simple reason. She wished to possess a country, which to confess the truth, was already in the possession of England, and Portugal chose to belong to us rather than to them. Of all cants, state-cant is the most disgusting, because it is a manifest hypocrisy acted in the face of the whole world.

The report of the Minister at War breathes a spirit of obstinate hostility the very reverse of the pacificatory tone of some late papers in the *Moniteur*. It talks of carrying the war to the heart of England, Ireland, and the Indies. These French orators seem to doat upon anticlimax. The Minister tells his Emperor that it would have been a *vulgar policy* in his MAJESTY to disarm; but this speech carries with it an apparent dictation which nobody but his MAJESTY himself could have originally advised. But the cry of a maritime war is renewed again, and the French are flattered into new sacrifices. The Minister makes them even ask for new hardships with tears of eagerness in their eyes; they are made to protest against any comfort till the seas are *free*, that is, till the seas are their own. They must wait a long time.

The various conjectures in the newspapers have rendered it necessary to state, that Sir RICHARD STRACHAN is positively in search of the Rochfort squadron; but every body might have known this long ago, if they had reflected a little upon the usual activity of that gallant officer.

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The Rochfort squadron is supposed to have gone to the West Indies.

Mails arrived on Thursday from Malta and Gibraltar. A great change, it is said, is about to be operated, under the influence of BONAPARTE, in the Government of Spain. It is said, that the Prince of ASTURIAS is to be declared Sovereign both of Portugal and Spain, and that his father is to abdicate the throne of the latter kingdom. In return for the acquisition of Portugal, Spain is to cede Porto-Rico and Cuba to BONAPARTE, and to grant to France a free trade with her South American possessions.

Letters from Madrid state, that a marriage between the PRINCE of ASTURIAS and a Niece of BONAPARTE is settled; but that the solemnization is deferred on account of some of the concomitant arrangements.—It is reported that the union in question is to pave the way to an accession of power and rank on the part of the Prince not reconcileable to the duty and allegiance he owes his parent and Sovereign; and that it forms the ground-work of the charge of conspiracy which occasioned his imprisonment. It appears, however, that the influence of his powerful protector has effectually screened the Prince from the resentment of the King.

Official details of the actions at Buenos Ayres have been published in the *Madrid Court Gazette*. LINIERS asserts, that the English army lost 4000 men in the first attack. It is also stated that General WHITELOCKE made him a present of a sword, as an acknowledgment for the humanity shewn by the Spanish Commander to the English prisoners. In return, LINIERS presented some valuable minerals and other curiosities to General WHITELOCKE.

A letter, dated Villa Real, 10th December, extracted from the *Gibraltar Chronicle*, gives a deplorable account of the state of Portugal since the entrance of the French, who, it says, came as lambs, but have shewn themselves ravenous and bloody as wolves. Though JUNOT has a large army of French and Spaniards there, he has required more troops to complete the subjugation of the country. In addition to this statement it appears from private letters that Portugal, and a great part of Spain, are suffering the greatest distress from famine.

Private letters from Gibraltar, of the 6th ult. state, that the French and Spaniards openly avowed their intention to commence the siege of that place, and were making the necessary preparations.

We are sorry to state, that the Leda frigate ran aground a few nights ago, and apprehensions are entertained that she will be lost. The crew, however, are all saved, and it is possible that the ship may be got off. She was endeavouring to enter Milford.

An immense number of additional Papers have been laid before Parliament, which passed between our Government and that of Russia. They are by no means interesting. The only important fact they contain is the admission of the Russian Minister that there were Secret Articles attached to the Tilsit Treaty, which, (though he refused to divulge them) he said, did not contain any stipulations hostile to this country.

The Court Martial on Gen. WHITELOCKE has been occupied the whole of the past week. The evidence of Generals GOWER and CRAUFORD, and Col. BOURKE, took up several days in detailing. From the slow progress hitherto made, it is supposed the trial will last a considerable time.

In the Court of King's Bench, yesterday, *Hector Gumpbell*, convicted of practising as a Physician within the limits of the Royal College of Physicians, without a license from that body, was brought up for judgment. He was remanded until Wednesday next.

It was expected that the matter of the Opera House would have again been agitated before the Lord Chancellor yesterday, but nothing of the kind occurred.

The following Letter from Admiral GAMBIER has been laid before the House of Commons:—

SIR, Admiralty Office, 28th Jan. 1808.

In answer to your letter of this day's date, I have to acquaint you, that, upon taking possession of the arsenal at Copenhagen, the fleet was found in such a state, that it could be equipped and sent to sea in a very short time; most of the ships were in condition for service, their lower masts were in, the top-masts, yards, rigging, sails, guns, and stores of every description, were so arranged in the arsenal, and in compartments in the storehouses, that they could be put on board on the shortest notice; there was no one article wanting which was necessary for their equipment; and it is certain that the fleet could have been completely ready for sea in three weeks or a month at most, as in a shorter space of time 16 sail of the line, 14 frigates of different classes, 8 sloops, and 2 smaller vessels, were fitted ready to be navigated to England by the seamen of the fleet under my command, with the assistance of some troops.—There cannot be a stronger proof of the good condition of the Danish ships, than their having been brought to England, through much tempestuous weather, without suffering in their hulks in the least degree.

I am, &c. GAMBIER.

To the Hon. W. W. Pole, &c.

We have received the following list of the Danish ships of war which have been taken into his Majesty's service, and the names by which they are to be distinguished:—

	Guns.		*To be called.*
Christian the Seventh	96	.....	Blenheim.
Waldemaar	84	.....	Yarmouth.
Princess Sophia Frederica	74	.....	Cambridge.
Justice	74	.....	Orford.
Heir Apparent Frederick	74	.....	Cornwall.
Crown Prince Frederick	74	.....	Norfolk.
Fuen	74	.....	Bengal.
Oden	74	.....	Oden.
Three Crowns	74	.....	Medway.
Skiold	74	.....	Somerset.
Crown Princess Maria	74	.....	Torbay.
Denemark	74	.....	Marathon.
Norway	74	.....	Nonsuch.
Princess Caroline	74	.....	Braganza.

FRIGATES.

To be called		*To be called*	
Pearl	Theban.	Frederigstein	Teresa.
Housewife	Boreas.	Triton	Hypolitus.
Iris	Alaric.	Little Belt	Espion.
Rota	Sensible.	Fylla	Liffy.
Venus	Levant.	Gluckstad	Raison.
Nyade	Hephæstion.	Eyderen	Utile.
	Nymphen		Determinee.

SLOOPS.

To be called		*To be called*	
Glommen	Britomart.	Sarpe	Voltigeur.
Ned Elvin	Legere.	Flying Fish	Venteur.
Mercure	Transfer.	Elvin	Harlequin.

On the 2d of August, at one of his levees, BONAPARTE, turning to the Portuguese Ambassador, asked him, whether he had transmitted to his Court the demand, that the Navy of Portugal should be ready to unite with the other Navies of Europe against England, on the 1st of September? Having said this he immediately turned to the Danish Minister, and asked him whether he had made the same communication to his Court?

Mr. CARDANUS RIDER, in his Almanack for the present year, has paid the FRENCH EMPEROR a great compliment, by placing his *defeat* at Acre among the *remarkable* events.

A Morning Paper says, that "on Tuesday the Duke of York received out of the Registry of the Court of Admiralty, by virtue of a grant from the King, 20,000l. arising from the proceeds of ships and cargoes condemned to his Majesty." We trust the above statement is unfounded: for surely this is not a time in which any Minister would advise such a grant, or in which that illustrious Personage, or any of his Majesty's sons would, we hope, solicit it. We are quite equal, we are sure, in point of firmness and resources, to all the difficulties of our situation; but we can only be equal to them by husbanding those resources, and by directing them for our common defence against our common enemy. We know it may be said, that these proceeds are peculiarly the property of the Crown. Be it so. But have not the ships which have been condemned been taken or detained by British seamen? The property of the Crown! But are we not fighting for the Crown, for the Constitution, for those interests and rights in which the King and the People are equally concerned? In such a state of affairs not a shilling of the proceeds of these ships and cargoes should have gone to any other than the public purse for public purposes—Are the allowances to the King's sons insufficient? The late Ministers increased their incomes 6000l. a year. The Duke of York's income was not included; but why? Lord Henry Petty specifically stated that "it was because such provision had already been made for him by Parliament, *as he conceived sufficient*, and he had *generously* declined coming forward with *any claim* on the liberality of the public."—Yet now we are told he has received a grant of 20,000l.! The Duke of York's income is a very splendid one—he has a large allowance from the public purse; he has two most lucrative Colonelcies; he is besides Warden of Windsor Forest and Great Park; Ranger of St. James's and Hyde Park; and a Warden and Keeper of Kew Forest. All these appointments are very valuable ones. We have his Royal Highness's own authority, then, for saying, that the provision already made for him *was deemed by himself* sufficient; and yet we are told of his receiving a grant of 20,000l.

We are happy to see a notice of a motion relative to abuses in collecting the assessed taxes. Every attention should be paid by Government to this subject: the taxes of themselves are sufficiently oppressive, and do not need being made more obnoxious by the injudicious conduct of interested collectors:—the fact is, that *respectability of character* in the assessors and collectors has not been sufficiently attended to. *Some* of these men are of the lowest description, and being clothed in a "little brief authority," think themselves justified in treating his Majesty's subjects with insolence and scorn. This should be corrected.—Englishmen will submit to privations, but not to insults.

It is a remarkable fact, that of the many trials for offences committed on the high seas at the Admiralty Sessions, the *immense majority* have been those of Captains of *Slave*-ships for cruelty and murder! A striking proof, if any were wanting, that the Slave Trade stifles every humane feeling, and makes monsters of men.

Pedestrianism.—Mr. Downe, the Pedestrian, finished his herculean labours yesterday within two miles of Beaconsfield, but under such circumstances as probably will not induce him again to attempt a similar performance. He had 10 days to perform 400 miles, a task unprecedented, and the weather was unfavourable. Mr. Downe, it has been already stated, was so much distressed on Wednesday night, that it was feared he would not be able to proceed on his journey the other two days. He, however, went to bed in a feverish state. Friday, the last day, was a trial of strength unparalleled. The pedestrian started at four o'clock in the morning, and his friends had but faint hopes of his success. After 17 hours labour, having stopped about every three miles, Mr. Downe completed his task, which was for 100 guineas. The pedestrian, it is said, is much reduced by his extraordinary fatigue, and he weighs above two stone less than when he started.

The Prince of Benevento is *descended* from one of the noblest families of France; he is remarkably plain in the face, has a wretched figure, and is club-footed. When dressed in his gaudy robes, with his Spanish hat and plume of feathers (the Court costume) he must really make a most enchanting appearance!

The wife of the Prince of Benevento (Talleyrand) was better known some years ago in India for her beauty than her virtue. She had there an intrigue with a Gentleman in the Company's service, which occasioned her separation from her husband, M. Grande.

Several pieces of cannon, with lighted matches, are placed before the Palace of the King of Naples (Joseph Napoleon): yet he too always speaks of his loving subjects.

The present King of Persia is represented as a man of vigorous intellect and various accomplishments. He is the father of 50 sons, who on great occasions are ranged on each side of his throne. There can be no doubt that Bonaparte meditates some operations in the East, or he would not take such pains to cultivate his connexion with this Monarch. At this moment there are numerous Agents of the French Emperor at the Persian Court, some of whom are able engineers.

In the list of Officers in the Stamp-Office, we observe three *Inspectors of Gaming-houses*. It would be curious to know how these persons are employed. They have but twenty pounds a year each, and yet if they visit all houses where gaming is going on, they would have something to do.

There are a set of people in London who believe that his Satanic Majesty has actually appeared on earth in the person of the French Emperor. He has undoubtedly on several occasions shewn his cloven foot.

The following anecdote will shew to what a height of blindness the *spirit of party* will carry a man.—When Wilkes, in the zenith of his popularity, was haranguing the people from the hustings, one of his partizans in the crowd exclaimed to his companion, "Did you ever see such a handsome man!"—"Handsome," says the other, "why, he squints abominably."—"He squints certainly," replied the fellow, "but not more than *a gentleman ought!*"

The Newspapers have of late adopted a mode of detailing accounts of trials for seduction, elopements, &c. so full of flippancy, that it would seem they thought such matters were fit subjects to crack their jokes upon. This is no slight evil. Persons accustomed to see actions highly criminal in themselves treated in this manner, must in time cease to contemplate them with that abhorrence for guilt which the virtuous should ever entertain, as the best shield against the practice of it.

The Historical Manuscripts left by Mr. Fox, though they will only form one volume, have been purchased at the enormous sum of 4,500l.

Every body of men have now their own newspaper. The Publicans have two. The Shavers threaten to bring out one. Some literary Coalheavers, it is said, are also about to establish a weekly print, to be called the *Blazer*.

At Gosport, on Wednesday evening, a man dressed in a blue coat, of a gentleman-like appearance, stabbed a female in the street. He escaped; but another wretch, named *Clive*, has been examined at Portsmouth, on a charge of stabbing a number of women, and committed for trial. Two of the women he had wounded swore to his person. He would give no reason for such diabolical conduct.

One of the great evils of Lotteries is the Insurance, a temptation which the poor cannot resist, though frequently ending in ruin and disgrace.—A young woman of respectable appearance was on Thursday examined at the Police Office, charged with pledging a lady's property to the amount of 40l. No less than 177 pawnbroker's duplicates were found upon her. The unhappy female confessed that she had lost all the money in insuring in the lottery. The owner did not attend to prosecute, and she was dismissed, with a severe reprimand.—The raising money by lottery is a system so utterly inconsistent with every principle of sound policy and morality, that we shall, on a future day, call the attention of our readers to the subject.

Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, now living at Brenton, near Tavistock, in Devon, is in the 109th year of her age: she has almost a new set of teeth. About 30 years ago she had recourse to spectacles, but at present makes but little use of them, as she can read the smallest print, without their assistance. She has two sons living, the eldest 85, and the youngest *only* 70 years of age, but remarkably strong; he belongs to a carrier's warehouse, and lately took a case from a waggon of nearly 3 cwt. and carried it the distance of 500 yards.

British Navy.—The following is the present amount of the British Naval Force.—At sea, 83 ships of the line, 12 from 50 to 44 guns, 112 frigates, 145 sloops, &c. and 159 gun-brigs, and other vessels: total 511.—In port and fitting, 30 ships of the line, six from 50 to 44 guns, 44 frigates, 66 sloops, &c. and 62 gun-brigs and other vessels: total 208.—Guard ships, hospital ships, &c. 30 of the line, four from 50 to 44 guns, 11 frigates, and five sloops, &c.: total, 50.—Building, 50 ships of the line, 20 frigates, &c. and 10 gun-brigs, and other vessels; total 108.—In ordinary, 59 ships of the line, fifteen from 50 to 44 guns, 59 frigates, 51 sloops, &c. and 16 gun-brigs, and other vessels: total 200.—Grand total, 1072.

The Stationers in London have made another advance upon Paper of 15 per cent. making 27 per cent. in the last three months. A further advance is talked of, which, if it takes place, will have a serious effect upon the Printing Business, as many valuable works now at press, must, of course, be suspended.

Tuesday the Court of Aldermen ordered the price of Bread to be raised to 11½d. the quartern loaf.—The Searchers and Sealers of Leather were sworn into office.

It is a melancholy fact that juvenile pickpockets so much abound in this city, that scarcely a day passes but several of them are brought up to the different Police Offices.

MISCELLANEOUS SKETCHES

UPON TEMPORARY SUBJECTS, &c.

PROSPECTUS

OF A NEW PAPER, CALLED

THE TRULY-SURPRISING;

OR,

Grand Political, Theatrical, Nautical, Clerical, Agricultural, Legal, Commercial, Fashionable, Impartial, Physical, and Advertisical Recorder.

The first number of which will positively appear on the 32d instant, at 23⅛ minutes past 1 in the morning, to prevent confusion.

In an age like the present, when every pretender to literature starts up in the crowd and like a distributor of handbills, thrusts a paper in your face, it will be a comfort to society to be assured, that there is at length one periodical print, which will meet the wishes of all wise men and good patriots, and which is determined to make no professions whatever—but what it will come up to.

It has been a very frequent observation, that newspapers which promise much always perform little. This indisputable truth has induced the Proprietors of the *Truly-Surprising* to make no promises at all: they merely state, that their paper will be the most splendid, unique, and unrivalled publication that has ever appeared.

It will be necessary however to mention the peculiar grounds upon which the *Truly-Surprising* builds it's claim to public favour. The POLITICS will be PERFECTLY IMPARTIAL: they will be written by a Gentleman, who to a life spent in calculating the different dates of events, joins a consummate knowledge of the Court-Calendar and a most dispassionate hatred of all party. There is evidently nothing so unnatural and destructive to the body politic as any kind of division against itself: it is like the stupidity of a man who should kick and beat himself with his own legs and hands. What infatuation is this! The Political Writer of the *Truly-Surprising* scorns to forsake the country by devoting himself to any party. It is manifest, that nothing but an entire detestation of faction and a perfect reliance on the exertions of that illustrious Statesman Mr. Q. B. X. can save the country. Moderation becomes all men, and it is only by sweeping the different parties from the face of the earth that any hopes can be obtained of an enlightened and humane spirit of reformation.

With respect to Priority of Intelligence, the Proprietors beg leave to add that they possess *exclusively* all the first sources of information, foreign and domestic. The Editor declares upon his honour and stakes the future credit of the Paper upon his veracity, that upwards of six months ago he prophecied the late alteration of a farthing in the price of bread. He has opened an extensive communication with the Courts of Petersburgh, Paris, and Pekin; he corresponds with the first political characters in all parts of the world, from Talleyrand, Prince of

Benevento, to TAMAHAMA, the BONAPARTE of the South Sea; and the Translator employed by the Proprietors is a gentleman perfectly conversant in the Greek, Latin, Italian, French, Spanish, Dutch, German, Portuguese, Danish, Kamskatchan, Hungarian, Swedish, Lapland, Norwegian, Greenland, Turkish, Polish, Russian, Prussian, Persian, Arabian, Hebrew, Chaldaic, Sanscrit, Hindostanee, Chinese, Siamese, Japanese, Tartarian, Cherokee, Canadian, Huronian, Iroquois, Dog-ribbed Indian, Mexican, Peruvian, Amazonian, Patagonian, Brazilian, Paraguayan, Otaheitean, Californian, Moorish, Coptic, Abyssinian, Nigritian, Ethiopian, Congo, Mandingo, Bambarran, Tombuctoo, Gonaquais, Caffrarian, Lingua-Franca, Formosan, Gaelic, Welsh, Irish, Arctic, Antarctic, Hieroglyphic, Gypsey, and Cant languages. Two of the original articles in the first number of the *Truly-Surprising* will consist of a letter written to the Editor by the celebrated Chinese FI-WHANG upon the present State of Ireland, and a dissertation by the famous PEQTRLAP, a Hottentot man of fashion, on the Abstract Principles of Political Economy.

In that splendid and fashionable department of a newspaper, THEATRICAL CRITICISM, the Proprietors of the *Truly Surprising* pledge themselves to exercise an IMPARTIAL SEVERITY, but not that snappish injustice which some men have lately mistaken for wit, not that murderous spirit of detraction which consists in knocking down by wholesale both actors and authors, not that pretended engine of reformation which spouts fire instead of water and destroys what it professes to preserve. The Proprietors have engaged no boy who mistakes worrying for wit and slaughter for surgery,—no malicious, disappointed author, who calls revenge candour and who writes against the theatres merely because they would not let him write for them. The Theatrical Critic of the *Truly-Surprising* is a staid old gentleman, who has passed almost his whole life in the pits of the London Theatres and who has neglected all other kinds of reading on purpose to study the various editions of the dramatic writers, the pamphlets on theatrical politics, and the beautiful chaos of Shakspearian annotation. This gentleman can proudly boast of having the best chronological collection of play-bills extant, and what must convince every body of his qualifications for theatric criticism, he is intimately acquainted with most of the performers. It is evident, that no man can be a proper judge of what is passing before the scenes unless he knows what is going on behind them; for as no possible judgment can be formed of the dress in which an actor appears, unless we are acquainted with the jokes he has been cutting in the green-room, so it would be morally impossible to think of criticising his feelings unless we knew the exact time in which he had been putting on his pantaloons. From all this it follows, that he is the best and most IMPARTIAL CRITIC, who dines with the actors, who sees them in all their little private habits (the true way of understanding great men) and who admires nothing in the theatre, not even a clap of thunder, till he knows of what it is made and how it is managed. Nothing can be more plain.

Of the lesser beauties of their newspaper the Proprietors of the *Truly-Surprising* may venture to make some mention. Every body will perceive the immense advantages of their publication, when they state that it will have NO ADVERTISEMENTS WHATEVER. Any commodity indeed, or book, or other advertisable matter may be announced in the form of a paragraph, and the very moderate price of half-a-guinea will be demanded for two lines, but the man must be insane, who could call these things advertisements. An advertisement is something that *professes* to be an advertisement, it is a kind of——, it is a—, in short, it is what appears in the front of the daily papers between two regularly drawn lines, but not a paragraph, nor a puff, nor what appears in the weekly papers that have NO ADVERTISEMENTS. Oh no.

Some newspapers value themselves upon the beauty of their paper, others upon the clearness of their type, and others again upon their arrangement of matter; but the Proprietors of the *Truly-Surprising* come boldly forward, and with a modesty peculiar to themselves pretend to no individual excellence of any kind,—for every thing will be of the best kind and done in the best manner.

The *Truly-Surprising* will be printed on grand imperial wove elephant-paper, and subscribers are particularly requested to read it with their gloves on, as the texture possesses the delicacy of a butterfly's wing. The type is superior to any that CASLON or FRY ever cast; it is cut like a diamond, and will shine, if any thing, more brilliantly, for the Proprietors are the ONLY printers of a newspaper who MAKE THEIR OWN INK!!

By all these superlative and splendid advantages the Proprietors flatter themselves that they shall meet the wishes of their numerous subscribers, who, though the subscription-book has not been open two days, absolutely amount to the number of

40,000.

N. B. The nobility and gentry who wish to become subscribers are requested to send their names as speedily as possible, as the tenth folio list is rapidly filling.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

It is with me a matter of the highest consideration what parts are well or ill performed, what passions or sentiments are indulged or cultivated, and consequently what manners and customs are transfused from the Stage to the world, which reciprocally imitate each other.

SPECTATOR, No. 370.

No. 6.

THE REVIVAL OF THE MAYOR OF GARRAT.—THE CONTAGIOUS EFFECT OF VICE UPON ITS SATIRISTS.—RUSSELL'S EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE OF JERRY SNEAK.—THE OPERA OF THE WOODMAN REVIVED.—IT'S GENERAL CHARACTER.—MRS. DICKONS AND MR. INCLEDON.

DRURY-LANE.

FOOTE'S *Mayor of Garrat* was revived on Tuesday evening and performed with considerable spirit. I do not think however that the piece was worth the reproduction, though I admire the peculiar spirit of revival which animates this theatre. There appears for this reason a more classical air about the stage of Drury-lane than about the other house, which is always in the extremes of SHAKSPEARE and DIBDIN. But the *Mayor of Garrat* is one of those licentious pieces which unfortunately cannot be chastened, since it's very moral arises out of the grossest of incidents. The author, in order to lash the stupidity of henpecked husbands, gives up the wife of *Jerry Sneak* to the miserable gallantry of *Major Sturgeon*, a bragging city soldier. The woman's infidelity is communicated to the audience in a most indecent manner, and after all the strong but vulgar satire on tame husbands, masculine wives, and boastful city soldiers, the moral is destroyed by the caricature: nobody cares to revenge the wrongs of a man who is represented as such a mere baby in man's cloaths, and nobody wonders at the woman who could desert him. There is no doubt a sufficient number of slavish husbands, that is, there are hundreds of married couples who have changed sexes, but an idiot who complains to his acquaintance

of *never getting a piece of the brown*, of being debarred from sugar to his tea, and of never having kissed his wife's hand after a twelvemonth's marriage, produces no moral effect that can at all excuse the grossest vulgarity and obscenity. There are certain speeches and scenes which are fit for no stage but that of Otaheite.

Foote, even in his writings, was a melancholy instance of the contagious effect of vice upon its very satirists. With an inexhaustible fund of humour and with a power of imitation, that possessed the instantaneous painting of a looking-glass, he might have held up the grosser follies to a ridicule five times as effectual, if he had not mingled with his satire an unhappy propensity to those follies. This contagion, indeed, has been the bane of almost every public satirist, from Aristophanes down to this man. Neither Horace nor Pope have escaped; Dryden lived to lament his poetical delinquency, and even the moral Juvenal dwelt with too prurient a minuteness on the sensuality of his countrymen. Our best dramatic writers, it must be confessed, are also our worst. Alas! in general purity of satire the virtuous English must yield even to the licentious French. Such are the solecisms of national character.

I would not willingly praise the performance of such a piece as the *Mayor of Garrat*, since I would by no means recommend it to public favour, but justice must be done to actors as well as authors, and I cannot withhold the praise of most humourous and natural imitation from Mr. Russell in *Jerry Sneak*. His voice, which is a curious mixture of roughness and effeminacy, and which is in general so unsuitable to his characters, had it's full indulgence of aukward simplicity in this most miserable of all stupid husbands, and his action very properly hesitated between it's natural feebleness and an attempt at becoming confidence. His smile always expanded into a most natural vacuity, for it is the business of a social fool, who has little sensibility, to feel a good thing with his face, and therefore he always grins most when he would do you most honour. In short the best commendation I can give Mr. Russell is to assure him, very seriously, that Mr. Liston himself could not have looked like a greater fool.

COVENT-GARDEN.

An opera called the *Woodman*, written by the Rev. Bate Dudley, and composed by Mr. Shield, was revived at this theatre on Wednesday evening, and repeated to a crowded house on Friday. I would not wish to say much of the literary part, since it does not appear to have been Mr. Dudley's fault that the errors of his earlier days have been revived; nor do I hear, that he ever boasted of the assistance he has given to our musicians, or of the honour he has done the stage. It is a pastoral opera, which, like many other pastoral operas, has a good sort of farmer in it, and a bad sort of country squire, a singing girl or two, some pretty scenery, and a very insipid lover. The bad acting of our singers is an eternal obstruction to any thing like a natural lover in opera, and so far, therefore, the author must be excused. The best idea I can give of the general merits of the *Woodman*, is to class them with the dramatic powers of Mr. Bickerstaff, who, with the help of good music and a most impudent grossness of plagiarism, contrived to pass for a tolerable genius. It is just such a piece, perhaps, as Mr. Cherry would write in a happy moment of inspiration; and if this is not saying much for Mr. Bate Dudley, it is saying a good deal for Mr. Cherry. As to the morality of the opera, it is blameless enough as to general event, but one might have dispensed with some allusions and speeches not very edifying to chaste ears. Perhaps our *ryghte merrie and jolie clerke*, after the example of his venerable predecessors, Theodore Beza and Walter de Mapes, thinks a man may be a very good churchman, notwithstanding the little literary freedoms of his youth.

The music of the *Woodman*, like all Mr. Shield's music, is a very happy union of expressive melody and scientific harmony. I could not help admiring the correctness of the public in matters of taste, when I heard some of those fine airs which have become popular, and which are indisputably the best in the piece.

Mrs. Dickons exhibits an increasing science as well as sweetness, that advances her every day a step beyond Mrs. Mountain. She is seen to her best advantage in the present opera. Incledon sung the *Streamlet* with much sweet variety, but his powers do not seem to improve with age, and those sudden starts of violence which he is apt to indulge in words which require no such emotion, cannot conceal the approaching deficiency of his upper notes. They are evidently growing old.

☞

Anecdote of Garrick.—When Garrick was in France, he made a short excursion from the capital with the celebrated Parisian Performer Preville. They were on horseback, and Preville took a fancy to act the part of a Drunken Cavalier. Garrick applauded the imitation, but told him, he wanted one thing, which was essential to complete the picture; he did not *make his legs drunk*. "Hold, my friend (said he), and I shall shew you an English Blood, who, after having dined at a tavern, and swallowed three or four bottles of Port, mounts his horse in a summer evening to go to his box in the country." He immediately proceeded to exhibit all the gradations of intoxication. He called to his servant that the sun and the fields were turning round him; whipped and spurred his horse until the animal reared, and wheeled in every direction: at length he, lost his whip, his feet seemed incapable of resting in the stirrups, the bridle dropped from his hand, and he appeared to have lost the use of all his faculties. Finally, he fell from his horse in such a death-like manner, that Preville gave an involuntary cry of horror, and his terror greatly encreased when he found that his friend made no answer to his questions. After wiping the dust from his face, he asked again with the emotion and anxiety of friendship whether he was hurt. Garrick, whose eyes were close, half opened one of them, hiccupped, and with the most natural tone of intoxication, called for another glass. Preville was astonished, and when Garrick started up, and resumed his usual demeanour, the French actor exclaimed—"My friend, allow the Scholar to embrace his Master, and thank him for the valuable lesson he has given him."

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Protected by the wealthy, tastful band,
Thy num'rous sons, O Painting, grace the land,
And annual find on this propitious ground,
Their works with praise, the meed of glory, crown'd.

This Gallery opens next Thursday with a greater number of original pictures of *pleasing* subjects, than any of its former exhibitions, but with fewer subjects of grandeur. The Painters have experienced that the former is the taste of the Patrons of the Institution, and they have amply gratified it. It is much to be lamented that in a society established by the riches and *professed taste* of Britain, the higher excellence of the art should be the least encouraged, especially as there exists such a fund of elevated talent. That the genius of WEST does not dignify the British Gallery this year, together with that of some others of elevated character, is deeply to be lamented. The British Institution has certainly much assisted to bring out youthful merit, but it should foster also matured excellence. It should go beyond a patronage of *pretryness* in painting, and should assist in dissipating the clouds which obscure the sublime effulgence of British art.

Female genius is this year conspicuous and attractive. Miss SPILSBURY, Miss REINAGLE, and others, shine with encreased lustre. COOK, DRUMMOND, and SINGLETON deserve much praise for their animated efforts in history; and Mr. HILTON, who advances rapidly in that path. To a Female by SHEE, we may apply the line of Milton on *Eve*:—

"For softness formed and sweet attractive grace."

A delicate *Madona* from the chaste pencil of DEVIS, and WARD's *Team in a Night Storm*, are vivid with genius. TURNER's *Death of Nelson* is a spirited piece of shipping and effect; but we do not recollect that all the men were *murdered* on board NELSON's ship. WESTALL presents again his highly poetic pencil. THOMSON's *Girl and Squirrel* is painted with the rich colour and effect that distinguished his "*Girl crossing the brook*. ALLEN's *Listening to the Grandmother*, is capitally drawn and has forcible expression. BARKER has some natural characters of common life, and his brother exquisite landscapes; as have also the Elder and Younger REINAGLE. ARNALD's landscapes are as true to nature as the camera obscura, improved with most judicious effects. ROSSI has two models, *Avarice*, and *Content* as a *Collier*, which defy the animadversion of criticism. NOLLEKINS has a *Venus* in all her beauty. Of these and many other charming pieces we shall be particular hereafter.

There were 309 pictures last year; though there are 500 this, there are fewer indifferent ones.

R. H.

At the sale of the Shakespeare Gallery and Pictures, WEST's *Lear*, the noblest painting in the collection, and his *Ophelia*, were bought by the tasteful and ingenious Mr. FULTON, an American, who conveyed them to Philadelphia. Thus, while 5000 guineas are given for a *Dutch* picture, because it has unusual brilliancy of light and depth of shade, but with hardly a ray of imagination or passion, one of the sublimest works of history in this or any other country, because it is native, and the Artist has the *misfortune* to be alive, is suffered to be sent out of the country without remorse; a work—

"Whose boundless strokes presiding truth confest,
"Where unresisting passion storms the breast."

The wealthy collectors of England should blush at this, at knowing that what they want taste to relish and retain, as the rare treasures of genius, the unsophisticated American eagerly obtains and ardently enjoys. We have received the following account from America with mingled pleasure and regret:—

THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS.

This Academy has received an important aid in the loan of 16 pictures for the term of one year; they are the property of ROBERT FULTON, and are in the most exquisite style. Public curiosity and a fine taste are highly gratified by their exhibition.

The first picture, 13 feet long by 10 high, the figures as large as life, is painted by our immortal countryman WEST. It represents *King Lear* in the storm at the entrance of a hovel, and is in the most heroic and poetic style of composition; grandeur is displayed in the figure of the grey headed old man; his distress, approaching to madness, contrasted with the calmness and kind attentions of his friends *Gloucester* and *Kent*; the silly indifference of the fool, and sullen melancholy of *Mad Tom*, are admirable; the drawing and drapery has never been surpassed, the colouring is very fine, the clare obscure well observed, the burst of lightning and glare of torch light through the storm of rain and gloom of night produce an effect, a *tout ensemble* which cannot be described, and must be seen to be sensibly felt and understood.

The companion to this picture is of the same size and also by WEST. It represents *Ophelia* before the King and Queen, who, seated on the throne, are struck with conscious guilt; the beautiful *Ophelia* is a most elegant figure. She is robed in white; her flaxen locks hang in loose disorder over her forehead and down to her waist; with her left hand extended she carelessly strews around the rue and thyme; her eyes exhibit a wandering mind and delirious indecisions, yet she is gentle; rage makes no part of her character; the most beautiful and interesting of her sex, whose sensibility has bereaved an elegant mind of reason: we sympathize in all her sorrows. The *Lear* possesses the boldness and dignity of a mind accustomed to command. The *Ophelia* has all the softness and delicacy of execution necessary to the female character.

These paintings are in the true style of classic composition. They excite the highest respect for the talents of the artist, and reflect great honour on the genius of our country; they are of themselves a basis for forming a good taste in our new school of art.

The third picture is painted by Mr. WEST's eldest son RAPHAEL, and is the only one which he ever executed of the size. It is from the play *As you Like It*, representing *Orlando* and *Oliver* in the forest, and has something very original—it approaches to the style of SALVATOR ROSA, is well imagined, finely drawn, and boldly executed. We lament that the world is not in possession of more of this Gentleman's work, for his genius is of the highest order.

The next are the *Columbiad Paintings*, 11 in number, taken from that elegant and patriotic poem of JOEL BARLOW, lately published in this city. They are each 13 and an half inches long by 10 and an half wide, painted by SMIRKE, in a style of delicacy and finish, which has not been seen in this country; the compositions are sublime and poetic, the colouring rich, the tonings warm and harmonious; they relate chiefly to the history of our country, are extremely interesting, and are gems in the art.

Added to these is a portrait of Mr. and Mrs. West, in one picture; and another of Mr. Fulton, by Mr. West.

The *Angel appearing to the Shepherds*, by Pynaker. Charming for effect and transparency.

The *Trouboudour*, playing on the violin, by Skalkin, is good.

The *Slaughtered Bullock*, by Ostade, a curious piece of still life.

The *Flemish Boors*, by Brower.

Portrait of an old man, by Raventine; curious for high finish.

Adam and Eve and the *Death of Abel*, by an Italian Artist, whose name we cannot announce at present.

Portraits of Earl Stanhope and Joel Barlow, Esq. by Robert Fulton, Esq.

Added to the above, are a number of fine paintings belonging to Mr. Lichleightner, and on sale.

LIST OF SHERIFFS

PRICKED BY HIS MAJESTY, ON WEDNESDAY LAST, FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

Bedfordshire—Richard Orlebar, of Puddington, Esq.
Berkshire—Wm. Congreve, of Aldermaston, Esq.
Buckinghamshire—Rich. Dayrell, of Sillingstone, Esq.
Cambridge and Huntingdon—Sir H. Peyton, of Emneth, Bart.
Cheshire—C. Trelawney Brereton, of Shotwich-park, Esq.
Cumberland—Thomas Irvine, of Justice Town, Esq.
Derbyshire—Postponed.
Devonshire—Sir H. Carew, of Haccombe, Bart.
Dorsetshire—Nicholas Charles Daniel, of Upway, Esq.
Essex—John Coggan, of Wanstead, Esq.
Gloucestershire—Sir Thomas Crawley Bowey, of Flaxley Abbey, Bart.
Herefordshire—Samuel Peploe, of Garnstone, Esq.
Hertfordshire—James Smith, of Ashlyn's-hill, Esq.
Kent—Charles Milner, of Preston-park, Esq.
Leicestershire—G. Finch Simpson, of Launde Abbey, Esq.
Lincolnshire—The Hon. W. Beauclerc, of Radbourne.
Monmouthshire—Wm. Morgan, of Mamhilad, Esq.
Norfolk—J. Thornton Mott, of Barmingham, Esq.
Northamptonshire—G. Fleet Evans, of Saxton, Esq.
Northumberland—Cuthbert Ellison, of Broomhouse, Esq.
Nottinghamshire—J. Manners Sutton, of Kelham, Esq.
Oxfordshire—The Hon. T. Parker, of Ensham-hall.
Rutlandshire—Thos. Bryan, of Stoke, Esq.
Shropshire—Ralph B. Wyld Browne, of Coyghley, Esq.
Somersetshire—C. Hemeys Tynte, of Haleswell, Esq.
Staffordshire—Postponed.
County of Southampton—George Hanbury Michell, of Titchfield-lodge, Esq.
Suffolk—J. Vernon, of Nacton, Esq.
Surrey—James Mangles, of Woodbridge, Esq.
Sussex—Wm. Stanford, of Reston, Esq.
Warwickshire—Postponed.
Wiltshire—J. Holton, of Grittleton, Esq.
Worcestershire—Sir J. Packington, of Westwood, Esq.
Yorkshire—Wm. Joseph Dennison, of Ayton, Esq.

SOUTH WALES.

Carmarthen—Morgan Price Lloyd, of Glansevin, Esq.
Pembroke—John Henslergh Allen, of Carselty, Esq.
Cardigan—Morgan Jones, of Panthyrlis, Esq.
Glamorgan—Hon. Wm. Booth Grey, of Duffryn.
Brecon—Postponed.
Radnor—Thos. Thomas, of Ponkerrig, Esq.

NORTH WALES.

Merioneth—Lewis Price Edwards, of Tolgarth, Esq.
Carnarvonshire—Rob. Thos. Carreg, of Carreg, Esq.
Anglesey—Edward Jones, of Cromlech, Esq.
Montgomeryshire—R. Knight, of Gwernygoe, Esq.
Denbighshire—R. Henry Kenrick, of Nanlewydd, Esq.
Flintshire—T. Lloydd, of Trebierdd, Esq.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

Wednesday, about twelve o'clock, his Majesty came to town from Windsor, to the Queen's Palace, where the Dukes of York, Kent, Cumberland, and Sussex, were in readiness to receive him. Soon after two his Majesty held a Private Levee, when the following had the honour of being presented:—

Lord William Bentinck, upon his return from India.—The Rev. Dr. Dowdswell, upon his being appointed a Canon of Christchurch, Oxford.—The Rev. Dr. Busby, upon his being appointed to the Deanry of Rochester.—The Rev. Mr. Ryder, upon his being appointed to the Canonry of Windsor.

His Majesty gave audiences to the Cabinet Ministers, and Lord Heathfield; also held a Privy Council, at which his Majesty performed the customary form of pricking for the Sheriffs of England and Wales, for the year ensuing. About five o'clock his Majesty set off on his return to Windsor.

The Comte De Lille is said to be nearly as big as Mr. Stephen Kemble, the unstuffed *Falstaff*: from this we should suppose there was a good deal of philosophy in his composition, for fatness and grief are sworn enemies.

FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

Many splendid, appropriate, and tasteful dresses are predominent; and the amaranth, ruby, purple, coquelicot, and bright amber, are universal. Velvet trains of these animating colours were very general on the Birth-day; and we did not remark more than two dresses of cloth or kerseymere. Indeed in point of lustre, richness, and beauty of surface, they must ever give place to velvet, brocade sarsnet, and gossamer satin; articles which now compose both evening robes and morning pelisses. Mantles and coats are still, however, formed of kerseymere, or Georgian cloth; and are, thus constructed, both becoming and appropriate. There is little novelty in the formation of these articles, except the Hungarian wrap. This graceful habit is usually formed of velvet, or brocade sarsnet, generally shaded and lined throughout with a correspondent silk; it has large loose sleeves, and the skirt (which flows loose from the back and shoulders) is wrapt in varied folds round the figure by the disposition of the hands. Long mantles of Devonshire or cinnamon-brown velvet, trimmed round with broad leopard skin, or chinchilli, and worn with bonnets of the same, are very fashionable and attractive. Sable caps, and fur of various qualities, are much in esteem; indeed, we never remember the period when skins of every kind were so much in fashionable request. Gowns are now formed in adverse extremes, either very low on the back and shoulders, or sitting high in the neck behind; and worn with an antique ruff of fine lace, brought to a point in front of the bosom. The Savoyard dress of cloth, or velvet, is formed in this style, buttoned and laced with silver up the front. Polish vests of blue, or ruby satin, trimmed with silver or ermine, and worn with a short train dress of muslin, are considered very elegant and select. Some few head-dresses of gold and silver tissue, spangled velvet, or embroidered cloth, are observable at the Opera; but in full dress the hair in the Chinese and antique style, ornamented with gold or fancy combs, tiaras, aigrettes, and bandeaus, worn low on the forehead, is most distinguishing and fashionable. The bosoms of white dresses are chiefly composed of lace, and though variously constructed, always sit close to the bust. Long sleeves are more universal than ever; in full dress they are composed of lace, transparent net, or silver embroidery. The most novel and fashionable short sleeve is of the Spanish form, sloped away in front of the arm, and

hanging in a point below the elbow behind, where it is terminated with a tassel. Little variation is observable in trinkets.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Monday, Feb. 1.

Mr. Justice GROSE delivered a charge to the two Grand Juries, sworn in for the County of Middlesex, in which he said, he had the pleasure of observing on the present occasion several gentlemen whom he had seen on former Juries, who, from the manner in which they had discharged the duties of their former office, gave assurance of the faithful discharge of it upon the present. He had only to add, that the practice of *public boxing* had become too prevalent, that it collected together a great number of thieves and vagabonds, and occasioned much profligacy and dissoluteness of manners among many persons who would otherwise be diligently employed in useful occupations—and the loss of whose labour was considerable to the public. He trusted, therefore, that Gentlemen of the Grand Jury would direct constables in their different districts to be active in the suppression of these proceedings.

Thursday, Feb. 4.

THE KING v. GOVERNOR PICTON.

Mr. DALLAS this day resumed his argument on this important case, which has from time to time occupied the attention of the Court for nearly two years. The principal point in Mr. Dallas's argument was, that no evidence was before the Jury respecting the laws of Spain, when they found the defendant guilty; and that, according to his Majesty's instructions, he had extraordinary powers vested in him, agreeable to the laws which governed the island before it was conquered. Having in that case the supreme authority in his hands, he could not in his judicial capacity be liable to prosecution for an error in judgment. The Learned Counsel cited several cases in support of his argument, particularly the case of the Duchess of Rutland, when the Court issued a writ against her, upon which she was arrested; but the officer, who executed the writ, was not held liable, as the mistake originated in the Court of Common Pleas.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH observed, that in this long and important case the Court would be much better satisfied to grant a new trial, as the subsequent *mandamus* had furnished new matter of evidence. His Lordship then asked Mr. Garrow, if he wished for a new *mandamus*, or if he felt himself contented with the old one.

Mr. GARROW replied, that he would consult upon that point, and would signify the same to the Court in a few days. The defendant, in either case, will have a new trial.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

On Sunday evening, as some ladies and a gentleman were passing the ditch, by the side of the path which leads to the Belvidere, Pentonville, they thought they heard the groans of a person in the water. Their fears were unfortunately realised in the person of a young woman nearly expiring, who appeared to be about two or three and twenty years of age; the patrole was immediately called, and a soldier, who was passing by at the time, immediately took her up, carried her to the Belvidere, where she was put to bed, and proper restoratives were administered. A surgeon was sent for, when by proper means prescribed by him, she was, after some time, sufficiently restored to say her name was Ann Carter, that she lived in Cow-lane, Smithfield, was a servant who had been a long time out of place, was without money and friends, and had suffered the greatest distress, which was the cause of this violent attempt.

DREADFUL FIRE.—On Thursday morning, about six o'clock, a most alarming fire broke out in Castle-street, Leicester-fields, at the corner of Bear-street, which raged with such ungovernable fury, that, in about two hours, three large houses were completely burnt to the ground, and three houses adjoining so much damaged, as to render them totally uninhabitable. The fire broke out from the shop of Mrs. Bateman, milliner, in Castle-street, where it is supposed it had been burning for some time before it became visible. The tops of the adjoining houses were instantly covered with their miserable inhabitants, few of whom were completely clothed. In the confusion Miss Lambert, a young woman who lodged in the attic story of Mrs. Bateman's house, leapt from the roof, and was literally dashed to pieces on the pavement. When the people appeared on the tops, those in the streets called out, "jump up," alluding to a small parapet which it was necessary to ascend before getting upon a neighbouring house, which was not on fire. It is supposed this unfortunate woman had fallen a victim to her mistaking the expression for "jump out." One of the three houses destroyed was occupied as an eating-house, and another by a chemist, in the wholesale line, the combustible nature of whose property added considerably to the fury of the devouring element. The body of Miss Lambert was a shocking spectacle. It was immediately conveyed to St. Martin's Watch-house; and about three o'clock, A. Gell, Esq. Coroner, held an inquest at the house of Mr. Nixton, in Ryder's-court, Leicester-fields. After the melancholy circumstances attending the fire, and the manner in which the deceased fell from the roof of the house had been detailed, the Jury pronounced their verdict—Accidental Death. Several accidents happened to the firemen and others; and one person was conveyed to the hospital with a broken leg.

BIRTHS.

On Friday evening, at Brompton, Mrs. Robertson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Lately, at Upminster, in Essex, an opulent horse-dealer and farmer, in his 75th year, to his servant maid, aged 21.

DEATHS.

At Buckingham-place, New Road, Paddington, Mr. R. Freebairn, landscape painter.

Tuesday, of a bilious fever, at her house in Lower Brook-street, the Countess of Euston.

On Monday morning, a publican, of the name of Hitchin, in Cross-street, Hatton-garden, dropped down dead while he was serving some of his customers; as did, about the same time, an Irish labourer, in Spread Eagle-court Gray's-inn-lane.

In Arlington-street, on Friday week, Henry Gage, Viscount Gage, of Castle Island, Baron of Castlebar, in Ireland, and Baron Gage, of High Meadow, in England, and a Major General in the army. His Lordship was in his 47th year. He is succeeded in his titles and estates by his only son, Henry Hall, now in his 17th year.

At Twiford, Norfolk, Mrs. C. Page, aged 77 years. She was borne to the grave by four of her neighbours, whose united ages amounted to 264 years, and was followed by her husband, who is in his 87th year.

At an obscure lodging, in Ratcliff Highway, where he fell a victim to poverty and disease, Mr. W. H. Hall, Compiler of the Encyclopedia that bears his name, and several other works.

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